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February 25, 2005

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service  
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

On Thursday, February 24, 2005, undersigned counsel, on behalf of the Rural Cellular Association ("RCA") and the Alliance of Rural CMRS Carriers ("ARC"), met with Dan Gonzalez in Commissioner Martin's office to discuss the Commission's upcoming action in the above-referenced docket.

Counsel reiterated positions taken by RCA and ARC in comments filed in this proceeding and discussed how the current 'per line' methodology for providing support to competitive ETCs controls fund growth and limits the ability of multiple competitors to enter high-cost areas.

A copy of our presentation slides is enclosed for the record.

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If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. LaFuria".

David A. LaFuria

cc: Daniel Gonzalez, Esq.